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## **Navajo President Shelly Applauds NNGE for \$5 million Gaming Disbursement**

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** – Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly gave remarks of gratitude to the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise's distribution of \$5 million to the Navajo Nation.

"Today marks the beginning of a new step into the future for Navajo gaming and our government," said President Ben Shelly during a press conference held at the Quality Inn Friday morning.

"I want to thank the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise for giving us this check this morning," President Shelly added.

More than three years after the first Navajo casino opened, the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise for the first time was able to give the Navajo Nation a portion of gaming profits after restructuring some loans.



"I would like to thank the Council and President for working with us to restructure these gaming loans and making all of this possible," said NNGE Chairman Quincy Natay.

The Navajo Nation has three operational casinos; Fire Rock Navajo Casino in Church Rock, Northern Edge in Upper Fruitland, N.M., and Flowing Water in Tse Daak'aan Chapter, N.M.

Another casino resort is being constructed near Flagstaff, Ariz.

“Twin Arrows is going to be a casino resort unlike any other on the Navajo Nation,” President Shelly said.

Vice President Rex Lee Jim also offered statement of gratitude.

“I want to thank each and every one of you for contributing,” Vice President Jim said.

Navajo Nation Council Speaker Johnny Naize also spoke during the press conference and urged gaming officials and tribal leaders to look ahead.

“We are negotiating with New Mexico for a new gaming compact,” Speaker Naize said.

The money will go into the Undesignated Unreserved Fund Balance.

“We look forward to future revenues so we can keep our nation moving forward to better prosperity for all our people,” President Shelly said.

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